

PHOTO ALBUM

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

5 Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a photo album, which is composed of a plurality of mounting sheets, and interleaves interposed between two mounting sheets, respectively, each mounting sheet being partially formed at either surface thereof with an adhesive layer. More particularly, the present invention relates to a photo album of the type wherein an adhesive layer formed at either surface of each mounting sheet is positioned only on a region where a photograph will be attached, so as to prevent a remaining portion of the mounting sheet, where it is unnecessary to attach a photograph, from being contaminated with a pollutant, such as dirt and debris, and to restrict an attachment area between each interleaf interposed between two mounting sheets and the adhesive layer, thereby ensuring that the interleaf can be easily peeled away from the mounting sheets adjacent thereto, and, even if the adhesive layer where the photograph is not attached is contaminated, preventing a person from easily recognizing such a contaminated portion.

25 Description of the Related Art

As one kind of photo album, a self adhesive photo album is generally configured in such a manner that an adhesive layer is formed at either surface of each mounting sheet, and an interleaf is provided to cover the adhesive layer.

5 In case of such a self adhesive photo album, a photograph is attached to the surface of the mounting sheet formed with the adhesive layer, and is covered with a transparent cover sheet, thereby ensuring that a person can appreciate the photograph through the transparent cover. This type of album is  
10 very convenient in attachment and detachment of photographs as well as appreciation thereof. Such a conventional self adhesive photo album, however, has a problem in that the sticky adhesive layer formed at the surface of the mounting sheet is easily invaded by a pollutant such as dirt and debris, resulting in  
15 damage to the album.

Another problem of the conventional self adhesive photo album consists in that the interleaf is unnecessarily adhered to the adhesive layer across an excessive area, thereby making it difficult for the interleaf to be peeled away from the  
20 adhesive layer of the mounting sheet.

#### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Therefore, the present invention has been made in view  
25 of the above problems, and it is an object of the present

invention to provide a photo album of the type wherein an adhesive layer formed at either surface of each mounting sheet is positioned only on a region where a photograph will be attached, so as to prevent a remaining portion of the mounting sheet where it is unnecessary to attach a photograph, from being contaminated with a pollutant, such as dirt and debris.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a photo album of the type capable of restricting an attachment area between each interleaf interposed between two mounting sheets and an adhesive layer formed at each mounting sheet, even in a state wherein a photograph is not yet attached to the adhesive layer, thereby ensuring that the interleaf can be easily peeled away from the mounting sheets adjacent thereto.

It is yet another object of the present invention to provide a photo album of the type, wherein, even if the adhesive layer where the photograph is not attached is contaminated, it is possible to prevent a person from easily recognizing such a contaminated portion.

In accordance with the present invention, the above and other objects can be accomplished by the provision of a photo album comprising a plurality of mounting sheets, and interleaves interposed between two mounting sheets, respectively, each mounting sheet being formed at either surface thereof with an adhesive layer for use in attachment of a photograph, wherein the adhesive layer formed at the

surface of the mounting sheet is positioned only on a region where the photograph will be attached.

Preferably, each of the interleaves may be formed with a plurality of protrusions for restricting an attachment area thereof to the adhesive layer.

Preferably, the mounting sheet may be further formed with a pollutant hiding portion at least on a region where the adhesive layer is formed.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The above and other objects, features and other advantages of the present invention will be more clearly understood from the following detailed description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is an exploded perspective view illustrating two mounting sheets, and an interleaf interposed between the mounting sheets in accordance with the present invention; and

Fig. 2 is an enlarged sectional view illustrating the interleaf in accordance with the present invention.

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Reference will now be made in greater detail to a preferred embodiment of the invention, an example of which is

illustrated in the accompanying drawings. Wherever possible, the same reference numerals will be used throughout the drawings and the description to refer to the same or like parts.

5 Referring to Figs. 1 and 2 illustrating a self adhesive photo album comprised of mounting sheets 1 which are formed, respectively, at either surface thereof with an adhesive layer 10 for use in attachment of a photograph 2, and an interleaf 3 interposed between two mounting sheets 1, the adhesive layer 10  
10 formed at the surface of the mounting sheet 1 is positioned only on a region where the photograph 2 will be attached. That is, since the adhesive layer 10 is not formed at a remaining portion of the mounting sheet 1 where it is unnecessary to attach the photograph 2, the album of the present invention is  
15 protected from damage thereto caused as a pollutant, such as dust and debris, is attached to the sticky adhesive layer 10.

If the adhesive layer 10 is formed only at a region where the photograph 2 will be attached as stated above, further, an attachment area of the interleaf 3 to the adhesive layer 10 is  
20 reduced, thereby allowing the interleaf 3 to be easily peeled away from the adhesive layer 10.

The photograph 2 has various sizes. If the photograph 2 has a large size, it may cover the overall adhesive layer 10, while if the photograph 2 has a small size, the adhesive layer  
25 10 may be exposed outside of the perimeter of the photograph 2.

Such an exposed portion of the adhesive layer 10 may be a cause of the contamination thereof. Conventionally, the mounting sheet 1 is a colorless sheet, and the adhesive layer 10 is further made of a colorless and transparent adhesive. With such a colorless mounting sheet 1 and colorless and transparent adhesive layer 10, even if the adhesive layer 10 becomes slightly dirty, the dirt is easily visible, thereby causing the adhesive layer 10 to appear to be severely contaminated.

In order to make it difficult for a person to recognize such an exposed and contaminated portion of the adhesive layer 10, the mounting sheet 1 according to the present invention is further formed with a pollutant hiding portion in a region where the adhesive layer 10 is formed.

For the formation of the pollutant hiding portion, at least the region where the adhesive layer 10 is formed includes a colored surface portion 11.

By virtue of such a colored surface portion 11 on the region where the adhesive layer 10 is formed, even if a pollutant is attached to the adhesive layer 10, a person cannot easily recognize it.

Meanwhile, the interleaves are formed at both surfaces thereof with a silicone layer 32 and, by compressing both surfaces of the interleaf 3 with a roller, which has a plurality of protruded portions arranged in a lattice pattern,

the interleaf 3 is formed at both the surfaces thereof with a plurality of protrusions 31. These protrusions 31 serve to minimize an attachment area of the interleaf 3 when the interleaf 3 is attached to the adhesive layer 10 through an exposed portion of the adhesive layer 10 not covered with the photograph 2, thereby allowing the interleaf 3 to be easily peeled away from the adhesive layer 10.

As apparent from the above description, the present invention provides a photo album of the type wherein an adhesive layer formed at either surface of each mounting sheet is positioned only on a region where a photograph will be attached, so as to prevent a remaining portion of the mounting sheet, where it is unnecessary to attach a photograph, from being contaminated with a pollutant, such as dirt and debris, and to restrict an attachment area between each interleaf interposed between two mounting sheets and the adhesive layer, thereby ensuring that the interleaf can be easily peeled away from the mounting sheets adjacent thereto, and, even if the adhesive layer where the photograph is not attached is contaminated, preventing a person from easily recognizing such a contaminated portion and consequent damage to the album.

Although the preferred embodiments of the present invention have been disclosed for illustrative purposes, those skilled in the art will appreciate that various modifications, additions and substitutions are possible, without departing

from the scope and spirit of the invention as disclosed in the accompanying claims.